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*A popular monthly review and record for the Pacific Coast.*  
*Official Organ of the San Diego Society of Natural History.*

C. R. ORCUTT, EDITOR.

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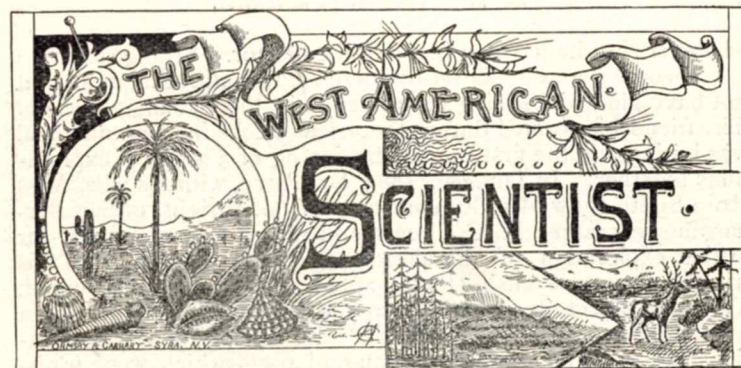
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CHARLES CHRISTOPHER PARRY.



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*CHARLES CHRISTOPHER PARRY.*

In the spring of 1880, two life long friends visited San Diego, California together, and attended a meeting of the San Diego Society of Natural History, which had been called in honor of their visit. These men were Dr. C. C. Parry, of Davenport, Iowa, and Dr. George Engelmann of St Louis, two men of the highest individuality of character whose names are inseparably connected with the history of West American botanical research. It was my fortune to have the honor of guiding the venerable Dr. Engelmann from our rooms to his hotel at the close of the meeting, and the few words of instruction received in the privacy of his room will always be remembered with pleasure. This personal meeting was followed by valued correspondence, which ended only with the life of that eminent botanist, who has left a lasting memorial in his botanical works.

Two years later, Dr. C. C. Parry again visited San Diego, when he rediscovered the little fern, *Ophioglossum nudicaule*, which he had first found in 1850, and which ever since had been unseen. Finding the well-known botanical explorer, Charles G. Pringle, of Charlotte, Vermont, an expedition into the then unexplored territory of Lower California was proposed, and Dr. Parry kindly invited me to join the party. On this trip, that magnificent wild pea known to the mountaineers as the 'Pride of California' (Kellogg's *Lathyrus splendens*) was rediscovered, festooning the shrubs along several of the canyon roads, with its brilliant masses of rose red or crimson blossoms.

In the neighborhood of Todos Santos or 'All Saints' bay, were discovered the new *Ribes viburnifolium*, Parry's Mexican rose (*Rosa minutifolia*, Engelm.) and a dwarf horse chestnut (*Æsculus Parryi*) among other new plants.

It is largely to the personal instructions in the field received at this time from Dr. Parry and Mr. Pringle that the writer owes



whatever skill he has as a botanical collector. Strange it would have been if the example set by these enthusiastic scholars should not have kindled a feeling of emulation in their young associate. The friendship formed during these few weeks in camp and field was lasting and the first was the beginning of a series of explorations together. In January, 1883, Dr. Parry, with his wife, Miss Rosa Smith (now Mrs. Eigenmann), W. G. Wright, of San Bernardino, my father, H. C. Orcutt, and myself formed a party for further exploration of the shores of 'All Saints' bay. On this trip the new spice bush (*Ptelea aptera*, Parry) was discovered. The main object of our party was the introduction of the *Rosa minutifolia* into cultivation, but in spite of the greatest precautions and care taken with a thousand roots which were transplanted to a garden in San Diego, the experiment proved almost a total failure.

Dr. Parry discovered during his extensive explorations hundreds of new plants afterward described by Dr. Gray and by Dr. Engelmann, and his name is firmly fixed in the history of West American botany. While his greatest service has been rendered to botanical science, yet, horticulturists will not soon forget that it was Dr. Parry who discovered *Picea pungens*, the beautiful blue spruce of our gardens; *Pinus Engelmanni*, *Pinus Torreyana*, *Pinus Parryana*, *Pinus aristata*, and a host of others of beauty and value.

Through his zeal and enterprise, many plants now familiar to American and European gardens were first cultivated. *Zizyphus Parryi*, *Phacelia Parryi*, *Frasera Parryi*, *Lilium Parryi*, *Saxifraga Parryi*, *Dalea Parryi*, *Primula Parryi*, and many other plants of great beauty or utility bear his name in commemoration of his labors and worthily do him honor.

No name is more intimately connected with the flora of West America than is the name of Charles Christopher Parry. For fifty years his indefatigable labors and explorations in the West have enriched our botanical lore. His name is associated with many pleasant memories in the mind of every one who was so fortunate as to know him personally. Since 1882 he has published very important papers on the species of *Chorizanthe* found on the Pacific Slope; on the genus *Arctostaphylos* (the manzanita); on Pacific Coast Alders; and later, on the genus *Ceanothus*, which contains the numerous mountain and coast shrubs known as 'wild lilacs.' These papers were the result of special studies in the field of these difficult groups of plants and contained descriptions of many new species.

Not only the botanical world, but every one with whom this genial, unostentatious botanist has come in contact with, were pained to learn of his death, which occurred at his home in Davenport, Iowa, on the 20th day of February, 1890, from pneumonia, which followed an attack of influenza, contracted while on a visit to the Atlantic States. The following review of his life is compiled from several biographical sketches which have appeared.

We are indebted to Messrs. Dewey & Co., publishers of the *Pacific Rural Press*, for the accompanying portrait.

Dr. C. C. Parry was born at Admington, Worcestershire, England, August 28, 1823. When a lad of nine years he came to America with his father's family. His parents settled on a farm in Washington county, N. Y. and there he passed his boyhood. He improved well the advantages afforded by the schools at that place, and in earliest manhood he entered Union College, Schenectady, N. Y., graduating in due time with full honors. In the meantime he had taken up the study of medicine, prosecuting it in connection with his other studies, until he was qualified to practice.

He had found at an early period that he possessed a longing for the study of the sciences, especially a love for botany, and he devoted himself at spare moments to the study of the vegetable world about him. As he advanced in the study of this charming science he grew to love it more, until its pursuit became an absorbing passion above all other aims in life.

In the fall of 1846 the young doctor and scientist moved to Iowa with his father's family, where he engaged in the practice of medicine at Davenport for six or eight months.

In May 1853, Dr. Parry was married to Miss Sarah M. Daltzell, who died five years later, leaving a daughter who has since died. Dr. Parry was subsequently married to a lady of Wisconsin, and she survives him.

Dr. Parry's professional career was of short duration, the attractions of forest and field proving more inviting to him than the routine of a physician's life. He soon retired from the active practice of medicine and devoted himself to what was to prove his life work, the study of the western flora.

In 1842 he accomplished his first botanical work in the region of north eastern New York, while engaged in the study of medicine. In the five years thus occupied he spent one season in central New York, and visited the Niagara Falls. During the last two years of this period he made the acquaintance of Dr. John Torrey, the renowned American botanist, whose aid and encouragement to young botanists gave such an impetus to the study in the early history of this science in the new world. To the instruction and friendship of this good and truly great man, Dr. Parry was always proud to ascribe much of his own success in the same line of research; and he in turn freely aided his younger contemporaries, many of whom owe much to his personal instructions and assistance.

During 1847, the year following his arrival in Davenport, Iowa, Dr. Parry was active in the study of the local flora, and during the summer made an expedition to the central part of the State, near Des Moines, with a government land surveying party under the command of Lieut. J. Morehead. In the succeeding year he was connected with Dr. David Dale Owen's geological



survey of the northwest, collecting along the course of the St. Peters river and up the St. Croix as far as Lake Superior.

In 1849 he was appointed botanist of the Mexican boundary survey, going by the way of Panama to San Diego, California, where he arrived in July. In September of the same year he accompanied an astronomical party to the junction of the Gila and Colorado rivers, returning to San Diego in December. The following season of 1850 he formed extensive collections along the southern boundary, extending his botanical explorations as far north as Monterey, along the coast. The years 1851-2 was spent by him on the boundary survey, in Texas, where he made valuable collections in localities never before or since visited by any botanist. He returned to Washington, D. C., in the winter of 1852-3 and prepared his report, since published in the volumes of the Mexican boundary survey.

In the spring of 1861 the culmination of the Pike's Peak fever again opened the way for western exploration, and in a private trip to the Rocky Mountains, he secured a rare collection of alpine plants, among them some of the early discoveries of Dr. James when on Long's expeditions in 1820, together with many new to science. The following season he was associated with E. Hall and J. P. Harbour in further exploration of the Rocky Mountain regions, the botanical results of which were published in the proceedings of the Academy of sciences of Philadelphia, for 1863.

In 1864, in company with Dr. J. W. Velie, then of Rock Island, Ill., he continued these explorations, in the vicinity of Long's Peak and Middle Park.

In 1867 he accompanied a surveying party in the interests of the Pacific Railway Co., across the continent on the line of the 35th parallel, north latitude. Valuable collections were secured on this trip in western Kansas, Colorado, New Mexico, Arizona and California. A list of the plants comprised in this collection was subsequently published in Dr. W. A. Bell's work entitled 'New Tracts in North America.'

An interval of several years subsequent to the latter trip was occupied in filling the position of botanist of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, at Washington, D. C., to which he was appointed in 1869. The principal work there devolving upon him was that of arranging the extensive collections of plants which had accumulated at the Smithsonian Institution as a result of various government explorations.

In 1872 Dr. Parry revisited the alpine regions in the Rocky Mountains in company with the late J. Duncan Putnam. The following year he was attached to the northwestern Wyoming expedition under Capt. W. A. Jones, his explorations extending through the Wind river region to the Yellowstone National Park, Mr. Putnam accompanying him as his entomological assistant.

In 1874 he made a tour to southern Utah, securing a valuable series of the plants of the singular desert district in the valley of

the Virgen, near St. George. In 1875, again accompanied by Mr. Putnam, Dr. Parry spent the summer in central Utah, in the vicinity of Mt. Nebo; and continued his trip in the fall to southern California.

The season of 1876 was spent in the high mountains and in the desert regions in the vicinity of San Bernardino, California, in company with J. G. Lemmon.

He made extensive collections in 1878 through the region from San Luis Potosi, Mexico, to western Texas, by way of Saltillo and Monterey.

The following biographical sketches have appeared:

*Garden and Forest*, III., 120. Editorial.

*Botanical Gazette*, XV., 66. Editorial.

*Bulletin Torrey Botanical Club*, by M. L. Britton.

*Pacific Rural Press*, XXXIX, 385. With portrait. By Prof. J. G. Lemmon and editorial.

*Democrat Gazette*, Davenport, Iowa, February 20, 1890.

The writer desires to compile a list of the published papers by Dr. Parry, and would ask the assistance of other botanists toward rendering it complete. Probable his last contribution to his favorite science appears in this issue, where he names a new and beautiful astragalus from the Colorado Desert. *C. R. Orcutt*.

#### CHARLES HARVEY BOLLMAN.

Charles Harvey Bollman died at Waycross, Georgia, July 18, 1889, whither he had gone to make explorations in the swamps and rivers for the United States Fish Commission. He was a young man of fine ability who had just graduated from the Indiana State University and had very bright prospects before him.

His first work was in connection with the American Ornithologists' Union, as an observer of bird migrations. He successfully studied the vertebrate and invertebrate fauna of his neighborhood, and became especially interested in the Myriapoda, soon making for himself an international reputation.

He was an enthusiastic and steady worker. His published papers all treat of the Myriapoda and fishes, the latter chiefly written with Dr. D. S. Jordan.

The following are his published papers:

1. Notes on a collection of fishes from the Monongahela river.
2. Preliminary descriptions of ten new North American Myriapods. *American Naturalist*, January, 1887.
3. Descriptions of new genera and species of Myriapods. *Entomologica Americana*, March, 1887.
4. Notes on North American Lithobiidae and Scutigeridae, with descriptions of new species. *Proc. U. S. National Museum*.
5. Notes on North American Julidae, with descriptions of new species. *Annals of the N. Y. Acad. of Sci.* IV-25-44, 1887.
6. Notes on a collection of fishes from the Escambia river,